By Senator Bullard

39-00420-08

2008460

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to congenital craniofacial anomalies; requiring that the Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Office of Insurance Regulation, conduct a study concerning the medical necessity, costs, and efficacy of mandating coverage for certain treatments and therapies; requiring that the agency report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. (1) The Agency for Health Care Administration, in consultation with the Office of Insurance Regulation, shall conduct a study evaluating the medical necessity, efficacy, and costs of requiring health insurers and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for cranial-skull-molding orthotics and other therapies used in the treatment of deformational or positional plagiocephaly. The agency and office shall evaluate whether gaps in coverage currently exist in the small and large group insurance markets for medically necessary care and treatment of plagiocephaly. The agency shall provide information concerning the types of benefits, including the cost of such benefits, provided to Medicaid recipients for the treatment of plagiocephaly, and the demographic characteristics of such Medicaid recipients. The Department of Health shall coordinate with the agency to provide such information concerning coverage and the costs of providing such coverage to children having plagiocephaly who are enrolled in the Children's Medical

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Services Program.

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(2) The agency, in consultation with the office, may contract with an actuary who is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and other persons who have an extensive background in health insurance for the purpose of assisting the agency in evaluating the medical necessity, efficacy, and costs of such coverage. The agency shall report its findings and recommendations related to mandating insurance coverage for the treatment of plagiocephaly to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than January 1, 2009.

Section 2. For the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the sum of \$25,000 is appropriated in nonrecurring funds from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to the Office of Insurance Regulation for the purpose of funding the study conducted by the Agency for Health Care Administration as provided in this act.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.